

**Directors' Association
Upper Hudson Library System
Friday, May 2, 2008 at UHLS**

Attending: Judith Wines (ALTM); Tim Burke (APLM); Nancy Pieri (BETH); Julie Zelman (BRUN); Darlene Miller (CAST); Deborah Canzano (COHS); Bob Jaquay (COLN); Debbie Shoup (EGRN); Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL); Carol Gaillard (HOOFF); Lenny Zapala (MEND); Pat Sahr (NASS); Margie Morris (POES); Candy Wilson (RVLL); Mindy Fowler (SNLK); Paul Hicok (TROY); Phil Ritter (UHLS); Gail Sacco (VOOR); Ginger Hewitt (WTVT)

Visitors: Jo-Ann Benedetti, Mary Fellows, Joe Thornton

Minutes:

Meeting convened at 9:02 AM

Motion: (Hewitt, Gaillard) To approve minutes of April 4, 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

UHLS: Phil Ritter

- **Big Read** - The trip to the Mount was good.
- **Riverway Storytelling** – The final report is being processed. Attendance was up by 60%.
- **Construction Deadline** – Application are due to UHLS by July 11th. They need to be at DLD by September 12th. There is an online powerpoint presentation to help complete grant.
- **Statistics** – Phil shared some of the figures for 2007.
- **Grant opportunity** – “Brain Health – Fit for Life” In order for UHLS to participate, Albany Public Library must participate. A lot of what libraries already do falls under the parameters of the grant – Wii with Seniors, Alzheimers programs, etc. Jo-Ann will send out an email asking for participants.
- **Proposals for couriers** – Phil stated that there were three options.
 - Stay with Velocity at \$137,200 per year
 - Choose one of the five proposals sent in from the RFP
 - UHLS to do delivery – this would give complete control to UHLS but would be an ongoing expense

Phil & Jo-Ann visited the Velocity warehouse and saw 24 bins waiting to be delivered to BETH. Bob Jaquay is not in favor of UHLS doing the delivery. One of the companies which responded to the RFP currently delivers lost bags from the airport. Bob asked if it delivered anything else. Phil stated that the company was looking for new customers. It is a local business, not a national chain. The reference letters were very good. There would be an increase of \$34, 000 in the contract over Velocity. Nancy Pieri asked if CDLC would join with UHLS. Phil said they have a different delivery needs; they have much smaller volume. MVLS is staying with Velocity as they have not had many problems.

Motion: (Jaquay, Canzano) UHLS should start procedure to engage in a contract with A.L. Delivery Service. Motion carried.

UHLS Board: N. Pieri

Covered by Phil's report.

UHLS Administration: B. Nichols Randall

- Installation of generator is close to being completed. Phil stated there is a problem in getting gas hooked up. It needs to vent to outside. National Grid is looking into how to do that.
- Trustee of the Year is from Stephentown.
- Developed goals for Phil's evaluation. He will come to the Directors' Association to develop objectives.

Services Committee: R. Jaquay

Did not meet.

Finance Committee: N. Pieri

No report.

Central Library: T. Burke

No report.

New Business:

Gail Sacco asked about nominations for officers for next year. Nominating committee will be Bob Jaquay, Debbie Canzano, and Candy Wilson.

Old Business:

None

Nuts & Bolts:

APLM: Pine Hills & Howe are closed. They are working on opening the temporary space. Gail Sacco asked for updated emails on the status to share with staff. Tim Burke suggested everyone check the website for updates. Lenny Zapala asked about the level of service in the temporary spaces. Tim hopes they will as full services as possible. The collections will be smaller but public access will be the same. Renovations should start mid-June and the new buildings should begin in August. They are also working on their budget vote.

GUIL: Revoked the card of a non- resident who stole a patron's laptop. Schenectady's main library may close for 18 months and that may impact COLN & GUIL. GUIL is having presentation of their expansion plans.

EGRN: Book sale going on. They had many dealers who arrived with scanners. TA Predl will drop off a dumpster bin before the sale. EGRN is interested in participating in the Fit for Life grant.

HOOF: Peaceful

POES: Received \$15,000 in member item money from Senator Bruno and Assemblyman Gordon for new public PCs, laptops, copy machine, and wireless access. Market Day is May 10th.

BRUN: Garden Day is May 11th. The mortgage is being paid on the new building. They are hiring a company for a feasibility study and for fundraising for the capital campaign. Barbara Kendall, who has been working at the library for over 15 years, is retiring. Two staff members were harassed by a local fireman about the condition of their American flag. He took the flag.

WTVT: This was their first year participating in Riverway. They had about 55 people in attendance for their event. It was a partnership with the senior center who provided the snack. WTVT used their mini-grant to purchase a Wii. They held their first program and eight people attended. WTVT would like to participate in the Fit for Life grant.

COHS: It was also their first time to participate in Riverway. They only had eight people in attendance. Debbie spoke to a reporter from the Troy Record who was doing a report on Global Niche. Also, the vibrations from the air conditioning unit which was put in the tower in the library has caused some stones to come loose. COHS planned to use its construction grant to work on this issue.

MEND: Assemblyman Riley visited with about six residents at the library. This is a part of the plan to have local politicians use public libraries to meet local people. Phil reported that Assemblyman Riley called him and said he was happy to have been at the library. Bob Jaquay noted that Riley referred to the visit at another meeting.

ALTM: Received \$10,000 for the roof from Breslin. Construction will start in June. The library has increased its hours – 9am to 8pm, Monday through Thursday. They will be holding a book sale. A book/movie program was planned for seniors. Shopgirl had been selected but was not a good choice. Cocoon was shown instead.

SNLK: They are working on a renovation plan. Received money from Senator Bruno and Assemblyman Gordon.

RVLL: Poetry Month Celebration – two poets read. It has been a year since the financial troubles began. Candy read a note from her Board stating that all bills and back taxes have been paid. Also, they had some work done on the roof and problems were discovered on the siding. Candy was appointed as Director.

VOOR: This is Gail's 20th anniversary at the library. She talked about the differences from when she started and now. New Scotland Business Builders is being established to identify business in that area. They held their first meeting at the library and it was very successful. VOOR has three candidates for the Board; one of the candidates started as a page at the library. Gail is seeing younger people running the organizations in town.

BETH: Quiet

NASS: Riverway performer was outstanding – John Pucino. He performed at the school.

CAST: Many thanks to the UHLS staff for Riverway and the Big Read. The events were great. Thanked Joe Thornton for AquaBrowser. Darlene reported that they had Native American storytelling at the high school as a Riverway program. It was completely silent during the event. The students liked the program and asked about being able to buy CDs.

COLN: It is a very exciting time in COLN. There is almost a whole new Board. A member of the Town Board made a statement of support with the library to not cut the budget. Bob spoke to the Town Board at a meeting. That is new for the library. The Teen Room is expanding. COLN is looking at becoming a Special District. It may be hard to do due to the financial difficulties of the Town. It is still under discussion. They had great programs for the Big Read. Bob can't say enough about Riverway. It is incredible. He thanked Mary for doing a great job.

Adjournment

Motion: (Zelman/ Hewitt) To adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM. Next meeting is June 6, 2008 at 9 AM at UHLS.

Submitted by,
Margie Morris